

newSource

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, EDUCATION & SUPPORT

WorkSource Standards & Integration Division

Announcements & Updates

Career Bridge Tip

Some customers seek additional training to boost their employment prospects but don't have a funding source to help pay for it. They can find a wide range of financial help in Career Bridge's "Pay for School" section – whether it's for grants, scholarships, loans or work study, or to simply find tips on how to fill out the FAFSA. "Pay for School" (located on the blue side bar) also provides a link to the state's largest scholarship site, www.thewashboard.org. Access Career Bridge at: [Washington Career Bridge](http://WashingtonCareerBridge.org)

Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Update

Public comment for the PAC's Business Services policy ended on December 28th. With the Business Services and Customer Complaint policies nearing completion, the PAC revisited policy priorities for the next several months. Here is a list in priority order: 1) Eligibility, 2) Certification, 3) Monitoring and 4) Branding. The PAC did not meet in December but plans to meet via conference call late in January to finalize the Customer Complaint policy and begin discussions on the Eligibility policy.

GATE Website

There is a new website aimed at dropout prevention which also serves as a good source of information on the subject. It is part of the "Graduation: A Team Effort" initiative led by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Go to www.k12.wa.us/GATE.

Technical Assistance Points of Contact:

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Local Integrated Workforce Plan Update

The WorkSource Standards and Integration Division (WSID) and Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB) hosted a statewide teleconference on December 14 to walk through the Local Integrated Workforce Plan guidance with Workforce Development Councils. WSID and WTECB will also host follow-up teleconferences on January 24 and February 21 to provide ongoing technical assistance during the plan development process. There will be more information on opportunities to engage state staff as the dates approach. If you have questions, please e-mail Lisa McCormick (lmccormick@esd.wa.gov) who will direct your questions to appropriate WSID and/or WTECB staff for response.

State Integrated Workforce Plan Approved by Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (DOL ETA)

DOL ETA Assistant Secretary Oates notified Governor Gregoire that Washington's Program Year 2012-16 State Integrated Workforce Plan was approved for the period beginning July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017. Also reapproved were three WIA waivers related to federal common measures reporting: ITAs for older and out-of-school youth, and competitive procurement of Youth program providers. The approved State Plan is posted on WTECB's web site at <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/Documents/2012-16WashingtonIntegratedPlan.pdf>.

Community Partnership National Emergency Grant (NEG) Update

In an effort to promote continued outreach for the Community Partnership NEG, WSID coordinated with ESD's Unemployment Insurance Division to secure contact information for more than 450 laid off Washington State Liquor Control Board workers who are still receiving unemployment compensation. These individuals may have previously been contacted about and declined assistance available under the Community Partnership NEG. Now, however, they may be open to reconsidering assistance as their prospects fade for additional UI benefits when federal EUC goes away at the end of December. To date, most WDAs have requested the contact information. Local areas that are interested in the information but have yet to request it are asked to contact Gary Kamimura, Director of Grants Administration (gkamimura@esd.wa.gov).

Final Stretch for WIA Contracts

As 2012 ends, we are reminding local and state partners that the next calendar quarter (January 1 - March 31) is the final period in which to carry out billable activities under most of the outstanding WIA 10% contracts. The exception to this is the Aerospace ITA program, which ends April 30, 2013. The 30 or 60-day period following program end (check your contract terms and conditions) should be focused on closing out programs and ensuring that final invoicing and payment is completed before June 30, 2013. The PY 2010 funds currently in play represent the last pool of 10% discretionary funding available until Congress acts through continuing resolution or reauthorization. For questions please contact your designated WIA 10% contract manager, Tami Gillespie (tgillespie@esd.wa.gov) or Bob Isom (bisom@esd.wa.gov), in the Grants Administration unit.